

# BE NOT...ASHAMED

2 Tim 1:8-10

Setting: For first 25 years after Pentecost, gospel spread rapidly

Little pockets of resistance

Church found warm reception in most places.

A.D. 64 this changed.

Nero burned Rome and blamed it on Christians.

Ushered in wave of persecution across empire.

Now, being a Christian very dangerous.

Result--fringe believers floated into shadows.

No longer popular to mention publicly your faith in Christ.

False teachers came into churches.

Paul forgotten and abandoned in Rome.

Most of friends found reasons why forget him.

Dr. Luke with him.

Paul in Mamartine prison.

Much easier to be supportive of individual who's popular. 2 Timothy 1:15-16

**2 Timothy 1:8 Ashamed:** feel shame for, feel humiliated, embarrassed, inferior, foolish, disgraced.

Put head up high.

Be proud of who you are and who your represent.

Psalm 25:1; Psalm 25:2; Psalm 25:3; Psalm 119:6; Joel 2:26; Joel 2:27; Luke 9:23; Luke 9:26; Rom 1:16; Phil 1:20-21; 1 Pet 4:16

**Testimony:** witness, record, evidence.

Be convicted when feel embarrassed, humiliated, inferior around record, evidence and witness of what Jesus stands for.

**nor of me his prisoner:** not prisoner of Rome. I am His prisoner.

God is Lord of every circumstance.

If free, then Lord's freeman.

If imprisoned, then Lord's prisoner.

**Partaker:** in company with

Be a sharer of afflictions of gospel

**Afflictions:** Persecutions, pain, suffering, hardship.

**Gospel:** Good news

How share in afflictions of gospel? Romans 12:15

Heart of concern....prayer...wise action.

*According to the power of God;* In His power.

*Power:* miraculous working, strength, might

*Of God.* power that comes from God.

Power of God always available

Not to always remove affliction.

But to help us walk through affliction. Matthew 5:13

## **2 Timothy 1:9**

*Saved:* loosed, rescued, set free from penalty and bondage of sin.

Luke 19:10; John 3:16-17; 12:47; Acts 4:12; Rom 10:9,13

*Called;* chosen, beckoned, bidden, commissioned.

When saved...God requires, to be holy, virtuous, pure.

Every child of God called to life of holiness and purity.

Eph 4:1; Phil 3:14; 2 Thess 1:11; 4:7; 1 Thess 2:12; Heb 3:1

*Stedman: If you are really a Christian, you will find deep in your heart a relentless urge to break with your sin and your selfishness, oftentimes at great pain to yourself, to face the pain of withdrawal, and yet to walk with and grow with Christ.*

2 Cor 6:17; 1 John 2:15-17; Rom 12:2

God wants us--distinctly different from worldly lifestyle.

**9... *not according to our works,***

We had nothing to do with our salvation and calling.

*Hend: Time, like an ever-rolling stream, flows on and on and on. But before it even began we were already included in the gracious purpose of God.*

## **2 Timothy 1:10**

*Hend: The grace of God which was hidden from before the foundation of the world and was only dimly discerned in the old dispensation has now been revealed or manifested.*

Salvation and calling rests firmly grounded upon historical work performed by Jesus Christ ....

**How do it?**

### **1. He abolished death.**

*who hath abolished death,* utterly defeated, put out of commission, rendered entirely useless; made of none effect; rendered inactive.

Believers don't die. They sleep!

Phil 1:21; 1 Thess 4:14

### **3 types of death:**

1. Physical – separation of soul from body.
2. Spiritual – separation of soul from God.
3. Eternal – separation of soul and body from God.

All due to sin. Romans 5:12

**2. He brought life and immortality to light through Gospel**

*Through the gospel:* Good news that God reveals.

*Life:* new life, abundant life. Jn 10:10

*Immortality:* never die.

## So What?

Remember:

1. Death abolished by Lord
2. Therefore, suffering is rendered inconsequential.

Respond:

1. Reject fear and intimidation
2. Stand strong for Jesus.
3. Embrace suffering for sake of gospel.